



Worship Illustration: Storybook
The Bonzai Brothers
God of Wonders Part 1: Miracles of Jesus
Unit 1, Lesson 4

Healing Jairus' Daughter

Luke 8:40-42, 49-56

Chauncey sat down on a small patch of grass and leaned against the wall of the Bonzai Brothers Flight School. He sighed and looked down at his left arm. It was wrapped in a big, brown sling. A throbbing pain spread from the middle of his arm through his shoulder. He looked up as someone called his name from the edge of the clearing.

"Chauncey, ole brother, Chauncey!" yelled Algernon as he walked toward the hanger. "Chauncey, what happened to you?"

Chauncey looked up at his brother and said, "Ah, just a broken wing, Algie! But what about you? It looks like you are hurt, also!"

Algernon groaned and looked down at his arm. It was also wrapped and held close to his chest by a ripped sheet that had been tied around his neck as a sling. "It seems I crashed a little harder than usual this week."

"Well, we are quite the pair. Two pilots with broken wings!" Chauncey said.

"Whatever shall we do, Chauncey?!" Algernon asked as he helped his brother stand up. "How are we going to fly our planes like this?"

"Do? Algie, we're not going to do anything!" Chauncey shouted. "God is going to heal us! Just like he healed Jairus' daughter. Do you remember that story?"

"Jairus? I don't think I know anyone named Jairus. What happened?" Algernon asked.

"Follow me, good brother." Chauncey was already opening the door to his office. He spied the Cargo Crate next to his gray metal file cabinet. "The story is in the Bible in Luke chapter eight!" He pulled the well-worn Bible from the crate and tried to flip through the pages. Algernon noticed his struggle to find the chapter with just one hand and reached out with one hand to help his brother.

Chauncey smiled gratefully. "Steady there, old boy and a big thank you! Let's read about Jairus! The Bible says he was a leader in the synagogue. Remember, that is where people in Jesus' day went to worship God and learn more about Him. So, we can guess he was a man of faith. He trusted God. That must be why he asked Jesus if he could please heal his twelve-year-old girl who was dying!" Chauncey looked down at the pages of the Bible and began to read. "Jesus said to Jairus, 'Don't be afraid; just believe, and she will be healed.' Then He went to Jairus' house, took the girl by the hand and said, 'My child, get up!'"

"And? And? What happened next? Did she get up? Don't stop now, dear brother!" Algernon prodded.

"She got up! It was a miracle!" Chauncey replied cheerily.

"That's great! A miracle!" Algernon exclaimed. He looked down at his brother's arm. "Do you believe Jesus can heal us?"

Chauncey nodded. "He created us; He made every part of us, so, of course I believe He can heal us."

"Then I'm going to believe that I am healed!" Algernon announced as he tore off his sling. "My arm is no longer broken! It's a miracle!" He raised his arm quickly. "Ow!" he winced as his arm flopped back to his chest.

Chauncey frowned. "Be careful, Algie!"

"I don't understand, Chauncey. I thought God heals people right away with miracles! Just like Jairus' daughter. If that is true, why is my arm still broken?" Algernon asked with a sad frown.

"Well, you see, Algie," Chauncey replied. "God *can* heal us with a right away miracle and that's always our first prayer, that God would do a miracle right away! But, sometimes He heals in other ways." He held up three fingers. "As I see it, God heals us in three different ways. God can heal us 'right away,' 'along the way' or 'someday!'"

"Well, now you've got me curious, dear brother. What is 'right away?'" Algernon asked.

"That's when God heals someone straight away, on the spot, like He did for Jairus' daughter," said Chauncey. "We call that a miracle."

Algernon nodded. "A miracle! I love that type of healing! But what is 'along the way?'"

"Algie, Do you remember that time when you crashed into the Eiffel Tower and broke your nose?" Chauncey asked.

Algernon grimaced. "I do! It took me two months to heal!"

"And do you remember the time you crashed into the Leaning Tower of Pisa and broke your leg?" Chauncey asked again.

Algernon sighed. "Yes! It took me three months to walk again."

"And do you remember the time you fell out of the Tower of Terror and broke your hip?" Chauncey asked a third time.

Algernon shook his head. "That was you, dear boy."

"So, it was, and I was in traction for four months! But over time God healed us 'along the way.' He used our bodies and doctors and medicine and time as part of the 'along the way' miracle." Chauncey explained to his brother.

Algernon had another thought. "But, what about our dear departed Uncle Bunny Bonzai? He was sick for so very long and then he passed away!"

"But, where is Uncle Bunny now?" Chauncey asked. "We believe he is in heaven and no longer sick. In fact, the Bible says, 'There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain.' So you see, God did heal Uncle Bunny...someday!"

Algernon understood. "I see! Someday in heaven we will all have perfect health and it will be...a miracle! You know, brother, it's incredible but true, what the God of Wonders can do! Whether it's right away, along the way, or someday, God will heal us all in His way!"

"Let's pray that he heals us straight away! What do you say brother?" Chauncey asked as he kneeled down on the floor next to his desk.

Algernon kneeled next to him and bowed his head. "As you say, straight away! Let's pray!"